

defoamer 0-1 wt %;  
anti-block additives 0-2 wt %;  
slip additives 0-2 wt; and  
Water balance to 100 wt %.

17. (original) :A composition for activating a dried activatable hydrophillic layer on a surface of label stock, said composition, said composition comprising cross-linker 1-10 wt %;  
wetting agent 0-1 wt %;  
defoamer 0-1 wt %;  
thickener 0-2 wt %;  
natural polymer 0-15 wt %;  
synthetic polymer 0-10 wt %;  
and water balance to 100%.

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REMARKS

In response to the restriction requirement, the applicant elects Group I, claim 1-13 with traverse because there is a technical relationship between the separately grouped claims. Claims 4, 7 and 12 have been canceled and where appropriate, the claims have been amended so that all of the claims require the use of a cross-linking agent.

Under the ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS UNDER THE PCT, page AI-58, which is available as Annex B to APPENDIX T of the MPEP, if there is a technical relation between the separately grouped claims, restriction should not be required. In this case, the separately grouped claims all use the same adhesive and a cross-linking agent and this is a sufficient technical basis on which to link the claims to the process and the product.

The amendment to the claims avoids any consideration of the cited Mallik publication which does not disclose cross-linked animal glue. For these reasons, it is requested that

the restriction requirement be withdrawn and an action be given on all claims.

Respectfully submitted,



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